

Sword Mountain – #1

Before moving from Jeffersonville, Indiana, to Tucson, Arizona, Brother Branham had a vision on Saturday morning, December 22, 1962, in which an explosion occurred and seven angels came to him. Brother Branham questioned whether or not this meant that God was finished with his ministry and that soon he would be killed in an explosion. In desperation, he asked the Lord if the meaning of the vision was that he would be killed in an explosion, to let him know so he wouldn't say anything about it. He asked the Lord to let His glory and power come upon him again and to lift him up again, or to let His glory come upon him, then he would know that this was the meaning of the vision. But nothing happened. So he asked, "Then, Lord, if it meant that You're going to send Your messengers for my commission, then let Thy power come again." He said that it "like to took me out of the room." Even after this, the vision continued to greatly trouble him—he did not understand what it meant.

After moving to Tucson in January 1963, the Lord woke up Brother Branham and said, "Get up there in Sabino Canyon." Sister Branham told me that, after they dropped Joseph off at Holaway Elementary School, they drove to the end of the road in Sabino Canyon and parked the car in front of the restroom. Sister Branham remained in the car, while Brother Branham got out of the car, used the restroom, and then hiked up the unfinished road that begins behind the restroom and leads to the right.

Brother Branham hiked up the canyon along the little foot trail, and as he approached the main trail (the Telephone Line Trail), he felt to turn and go up into some large jagged rocks that are hundreds of feet high—where the eagles were flying around and he could watch some deer that were standing there. He laid down his Bible and his paper, knelt down, and prayed concerning the vision he had in December 1962: "Lord, what does this blast mean, and what does these seven angels in a constellation of the pyramid, picking me up from off the ground and turning eastward: what does it mean? I can't understand it, Lord. What am I to do?" He was still thinking that the vision may have meant he was going to be killed in an explosion of some sort.

Around 10:00 that morning, while Brother Branham was praying with his hands up in the air, something struck his hand. When he looked in his right hand, there was a sword that just fit his hand exactly. The handle was made of the prettiest pearl that he had ever seen. The guard over the handle, which extends over the hand and around the knuckles to protect the hand from being lanced while dueling, was gold. The narrow saber's blade was about two to three feet long and was razor sharp. The blade was glistening silver—looking something like a very shiny chrome and was brighter than real silver as it glistened in the sun.

Sword Mountain – #2

You can imagine how a person in his right mind would feel standing there with a sword in his hand—that came from nowhere—with no one else around for miles. Brother Branham rubbed his face, looked at the sword, and thought, “That’s strange. Now, Lord, am I losing my mind? There’s no one here. I’m miles from anybody, and here is a sword in my hand, bright, shiny, glistening in the sun.” He felt it, waved the blade back and forth, and hit it—and it was a sword. “Now, It’s got to be in this vicinity somewhere—Somebody that could create and make a sword and put it in my hand. It could only be the very God that created a ram for Abraham—that could create those squirrels... Three different kinds of material in it, and I’m holding it in my hand just as real as anything else I could hold in my hand.” But he then thought how he was always afraid of a sword or a knife. Brother Branham didn’t use the big Jim Bowie knife; he did not like big knives. He always used a small hunting knife. He was glad that he didn’t live during the time when they used swords. “What will I do with that?” he thought.

Just then, a voice spoke that shook the canyon and said, “That’s the King’s Sword.” Brother Branham wondered where the voice came from, and he held up his hand and said, “A king’s sword.” Then the sword left his hand—he didn’t know where it went—it just disappeared. He thought about how a king knights a man with a sword and wondered if it meant that he was supposed to lay hands upon the ministers, or something like that, to make them ministers. He had all kinds of thoughts as to what it could mean, but as he said, “The human mind can be all messed up, you know... Our minds are finite; His is infinite.” (*One In A Million*, April 24, 1965, Los Angeles, California)

A voice spoke back again, and said, “*THE King’s Sword.*” Not a king—*THE King’s Sword.* Brother Branham thought, “Now, I’m either beside myself, my mind has slipped; or there’s something taking place, there’s Somebody standing around here by me. Now, ever Who that is has talked to me all my life since a little bitty baby boy and He is standing right here, and I can’t see Him at all.” Then Brother Branham said, “*The King’s Sword?*” He thought, “There’s only one ‘the King’—that is God.” He wondered, “What is this ‘Sword?’” The answer came, “The Word. It’s been placed in your hand.” Brother Branham was reminded that the Word of the Lord is like a sword: *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* (Hebrews 4:12)

“The vision is not your end time. Don’t fear of death. It’s your ministry. Don’t fear; this is that third pull.” Down off that mountain Brother Branham went—crying—screaming to the top of his voice—jumping over rocks. When he got back to his wife, he told her, “I’m not going to die! It’s my ministry!”

Brother Branham personally told me this experience a number of times. One time in August 1965, we were sitting in the Clarksville Holiday Inn coffee shop having breakfast. On the wall directly above us was a shield with two swords crossed on it. Brother Branham explained to me how he was asking God to show him about all this, and he was seeking the Lord for an answer. As he told about the sword appearing in his hand, he picked up his knife (which he had used to cut his eggs and bacon), held it up, and said, “Brother Pearry, it was just as real as this knife I’ve got in my hand. The handle was pearl and the guard that went over my knuckles was made out of gold.” He drew me a diagram on a napkin. “It was sharp...and there it was glistening in the sun.” He told me about the voice saying it was “*The King’s sword.*” “Brother Pearry,” he said, “it wasn’t a dream—it wasn’t a vision—it was a literal sword in my hand. The sun was reflecting off it. I could feel it in my hand. I rubbed my eyes. I wasn’t asleep; I was awake. It wasn’t a vision. It was real!”

Identifying Sword Mountain – #1

On Thursday, September 23, 1965, when Brother Branham came to photograph the word “Eagle” in the rock, he also photographed the jagged rocks where he was kneeling when the sword appeared in his hand the beginning of 1963. When I first saw these three or four photographs, I wondered why he took them. In the photographs, the bluffs were at the top and the jagged rocks were in the center of the photo. The jagged rocks looked like they were part of the mountainside, instead of being separate from it like they are. These photos were part of the first clues that I had that Sword Mountain, as we call it, was on the east side of the canyon. Later, when I went over there, I found that the jagged rocks were separate from the mountainside, and the area fit the descriptions that Brother and Sister Branham gave.

Sister Branham told me that Brother Branham went up the unfinished road behind the restroom. Brother Branham told me that at the end of the unfinished road, he followed a game trail up the side of the mountain and came out underneath a tree where there is a large, white rock. He also said that where the sword appeared in his hand, he could look down at Tucson below and pray for the city. In his sermons, he referred to the area as jagged rocks (“going up through this little foot trail, rolling rocks along, I felt led to turn this way. And I turned and went up into some great jagged rocks, oh my, hundreds of feet high.”). Several times he referred to the sword as glistening in the sun (“Here’s that Sword in my hand, bright, shiny, glistening in the sun.”). Where he was, he said the eagles were flying (“I went up in the canyon, climbed plumb up where the eagles was flying around. I was watching some deer standing there.”). (When some people heard this statement, they assumed Brother Branham had to be up on top of the highest bluff. But I let Brother Branham be a man, like he was, who walked the trails. Besides that, eagles and other birds fly at the height of the jagged rocks below the bluffs.)

Seeing that these jagged rocks in the middle of Brother Branham’s pictures fit all these descriptions, we felt we knew where the sword appeared in his hand. As I was preaching in the church one day, I said, “I can take you to the place! I can show you where the sword appeared in the prophet’s hand!”

After service Brother M. David Linhart came to me and said, “You said you could take us, and I want to go.” I asked him if he didn’t believe me, but he still insisted that I take him. After I got home that night at about 11:00, he called and said, “Brother Frank Dean and I will be at your house around 5:00 to get you. We’re going in the morning.” I told him to forget it, but he insisted. This was how I found out that he was stubborn. He said he was steadfast, like the Bible says, “Be ye steadfast.” I told him, “No, brother, it borders on stubbornness with you.” But we’re friends and we can stand toe-to-toe and disagree and still love one another. Like Brother Branham said, “If you can’t disagree with a man and things, then shake his hand and still have the same feelings towards him, then there’s something wrong with you. If I can’t disagree with a man, bitterly, from one side to the other, and still think as much of him as Christ would, then there’s something wrong with my spirit; I haven’t the Spirit of Christ.”¹

¹ *Church Order*, December 26, 1963, Jeffersonville, Indiana

Identifying Sword Mountain – #2

The next morning, they got me up and we went to Sabino Canyon. I was going to teach that older man (Brother Linhart) a lesson. I didn't wear a coat, and they did. It was cold; it was the second week of January 1967. When we came up the canyon, I ran up the trail ahead of them to where the jagged rocks are. While I was moving, I was fine, but when I stopped, I got cold. As we were on top of the mountain, they could see that it fit the descriptions of the jagged rocks, seeing Tucson in an upside-down pyramid, and so on. Brother Linhart took out a sermon book, *What Is The Attraction On The Mountain?*, and began reading Brother Branham's explanation of what happened on Sword Mountain. "Here's that Sword in my hand, bright, shiny, glistening in the sun." When he read about the sword glistening in the sun, I suddenly realized, "This can't be the place, because there's no sun here."

"Look," I said to them, "there's no sun here. Look at that big bluff up there on the east side. It is blocking the sun and there won't be any sun here until 11:00. Brother Branham said the sword was glistening in the sun, but there is no sun here so this couldn't be the place, although it fits every other description. Brothers, I'm wrong and I'll go back and apologize to the congregation."

Brother Linhart kept reading the description from the sermon book. Well, I didn't have a jacket on (and they did), and I had perspired from running up there, and I was getting very cold. They wanted to have a word of prayer, so we knelt to pray. Brother Linhart prayed a while. I thought he was going to pray for everybody in the world; the longer he prayed, the colder I got. When he got through praying, he had Brother Dean pray, and it seemed like he was praying for everybody Brother Linhart hadn't prayed for. There I was, getting colder, and my attitude was getting so carnal that I was about to say, "That's it, brothers! You can seek the Holy Ghost when we get back to town!" When Brother Dean finished praying, Brother Linhart said, "Now, Brother Green, it's your turn to pray."

It was about 9:45 that morning. As I bowed my head, closed my eyes, and started talking to the Lord, I began to feel warm. I really thought I was having a Pentecostal sensation. When I opened my eyes, I saw the sun was shining straight on my face. It had shone directly between the little finger on the left side of the saddle and the left edge of the saddle.² The sunlight was striking right where I was kneeling. There was no other place on that mountain where Brother Branham could have been that morning where a sword would have glistened in the sun.

We may wonder why God put a sword in Brother Branham's hand. To me, that was a sign and a comfort to Brother Branham. But why did Brother Branham tell us a sword appeared in his hand? The reason is, because it is the truth. It happened.

² The "saddle" is a "U" shaped area in the high bluffs.

Sword Mountain rock & tree where trails meet

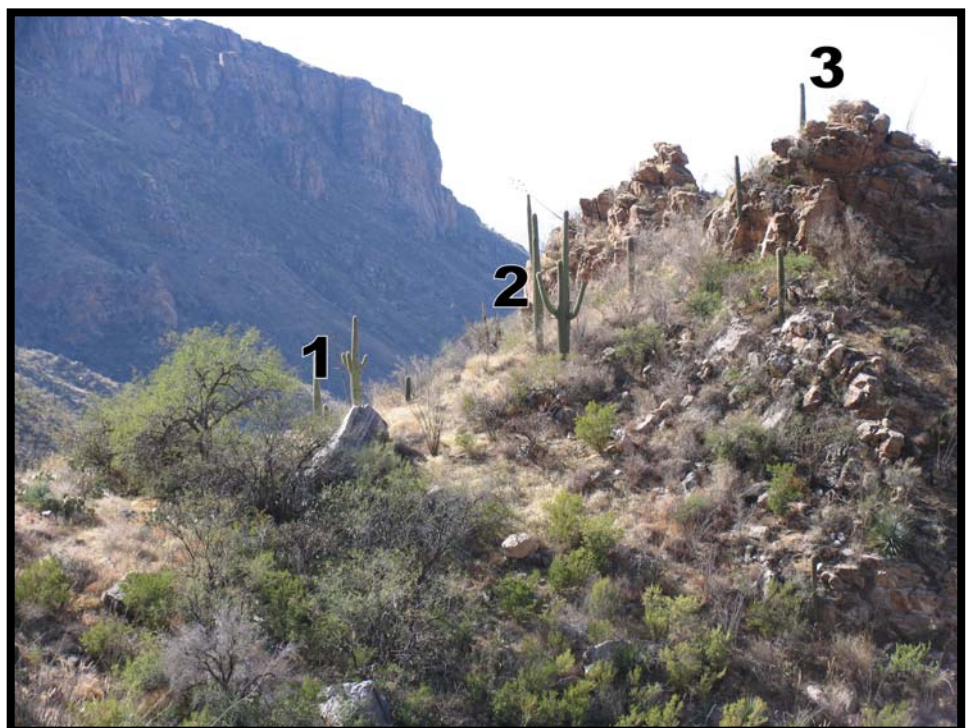


Brother Branham told me that at the end of the unfinished road, he followed a game trail up the side of the mountain and came out underneath a tree where there is a large, white rock.

#1 – The large, white rock and the tree where the game trail ended and met the main trail

#2 – The trail that goes up Sword Mountain from the main trail (which is the Phone Line Trail)

#3 – The top of Sword Mountain. The rock that is below the #3 is sometimes referred to as “pulpit rock.”



Sword Mountain sun coming through the “U” shaped saddle



The photo to the left is of Sword Mountain. “Pulpit rock” is in the lower left portion of the photograph. The “U” shaped saddle is above. The flat area that is a good place to pray is directly in front.

At the beginning of the year, at about 10 o’clock in the morning, the sun shines onto Sword Mountain through this “U” shaped saddle. All the other areas around it are dark at that time of day. It was at about 10

o’clock in the morning when Brother Branham was up there praying and the sword appeared in his hand. He said it was glistening in the sun. The other areas around this are not in sunlight until much later in the day. This was one of the many identifying features that told us we had found the correct location for this experience.



The photo above shows a clock on top of Sword Mountain with the sun shining through the “U” shaped saddle onto Sword Mountain.

The photo on the right shows the sun shining through the saddle onto Sword Mountain.

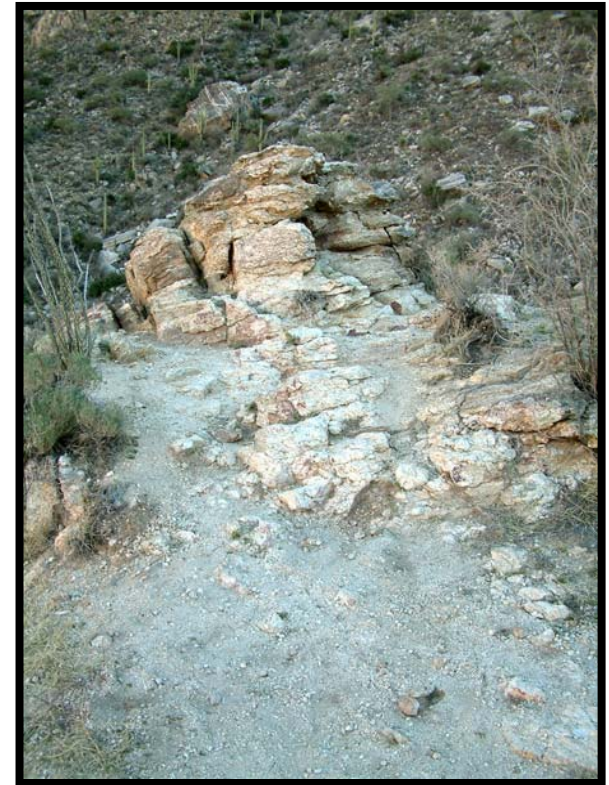


Sword Mountain

On top of Sword Mountain is a level spot that is a good location to pray. The rock directly in front of you in the photo below is often called “pulpit rock.” The area in front of this fits Brother Branham’s descriptions for where the sword appeared in his hand while he was praying.



The photo to the upper left shows Sword Mountain near where the game trail and the Phone Line Trail meet. The trail in this photo leads to the top of Sword Mountain.



The photo on the lower left shows pulpit rock toward the lower left corner, the level spot to the right of pulpit rock, Thimble Peak on the ridge above, and the “U” shaped saddle where the sun comes through at the time of year when Brother Branham was there praying and the sword appeared in his hand.

Sword Mountain

In each photo, the place marked with the “1” is what is often referred to as “pulpit rock.” Near there is the area that fits the descriptions Brother Branham gave for where he was when the sword appeared in his hand.



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Sword Mountain “Jagged Rocks”



This is a view of the jagged rocks from the unfinished road, the way Brother Branham first went to them in early 1963. “Pulpit rock” is in the upper left-hand corner of the photo.



Viewing the jagged rocks from the paved road
Thimble Peak is on the upper left edge of the photo. The “U” shaped saddle that the sun shines through onto Sword Mountain is in the upper left portion of the photo.

Sword Mountain “Jagged Rocks”



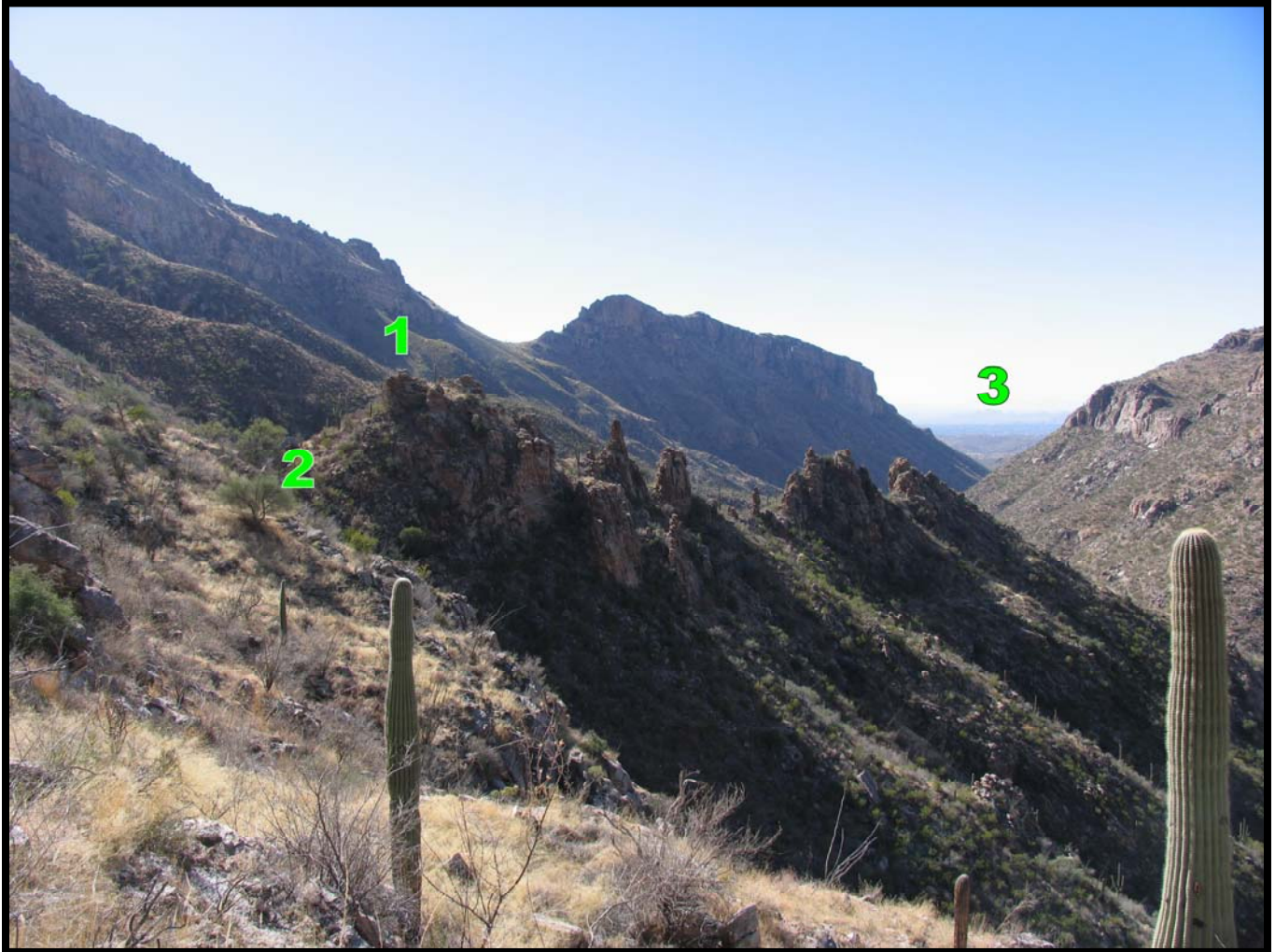
Brother Branham referred to the area where the sword appeared in his hand in 1963, as “jagged rocks.” In this photo and in other photos, you can see why he called them jagged rocks.

The jagged rocks
as seen from the
paved road below



Sword Mountain

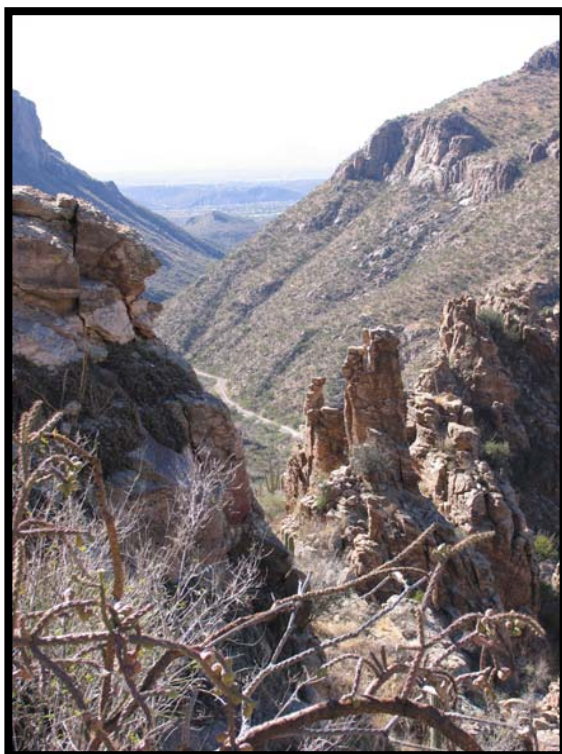
The sword appearing in Brother Branham's hand in early 1963 was the beginning of the experiences that Brother Branham had in Sabino Canyon. Several times, he returned to the canyon to pray. There, he frequently was attracted to the jagged rocks, where he could look at Tucson in the middle of an "upside-down pyramid." The walls of the mouth of the canyon angle upward and form a "V" shape, making it look like a pyramid turned upside down. Brother Branham told me, "When you stand up there where the sword appeared, if you look out the mouth of Sabino Canyon, it looks like a pyramid upside down, and Tucson is right in the heart of it. It is a good place to stand and pray for Tucson."



#1 – Sword Mountain (directly under the "1" is "pulpit rock") – The game trail meets the main trail. Another path goes up onto Sword Mountain from there. On Sword Mountain is a level area that is a good place to pray.

#2 – The Phone Line Trail and the game trail met near this tree and the large, white rock (which is not easily seen in this photo).

#3 – The "V" shape, which is formed by the sides of the canyon, makes Tucson look like it is in the middle of an upside-down pyramid.



Sword Mountain Tucson in the middle of the upside-down pyramid

The experience of the sword appearing in Brother Branham's hand in early 1963 was the beginning of the things that happened to Brother Branham in Sabino Canyon. When he went to Sabino, he frequently was attracted to the jagged rocks, where he could view Tucson through an "upside-down pyramid." (The walls of the canyon angle upward and form this "V" shape that looks like an inverted pyramid.)

Brother Branham told me, "When you stand up there where the sword appeared, if you look out the mouth of Sabino Canyon, it looks like a pyramid upside down, and Tucson is right in the heart of it. It is a good place to stand and pray for Tucson."

The photo in the upper left-hand corner was taken while standing on Sword Mountain. It shows the inverted pyramid with Tucson in the center of it. The paved road where the tram was driven is in the middle of the photo. Parts of the jagged rocks are in the foreground.



The lower two photos show downtown Tucson directly in front of "A Mountain."

Both photos were taken while standing on Sword Mountain.



Sword Mountain looking down toward the roads



Brother Branham parked his car at Stop 9. Then he walked up behind the restroom onto the unfinished road until he reached the game trail. From there he walked up the game trail toward the main trail. Then he turned to the right and came up to the top of the jagged rocks, which is where the sword appeared in his hand (1963).

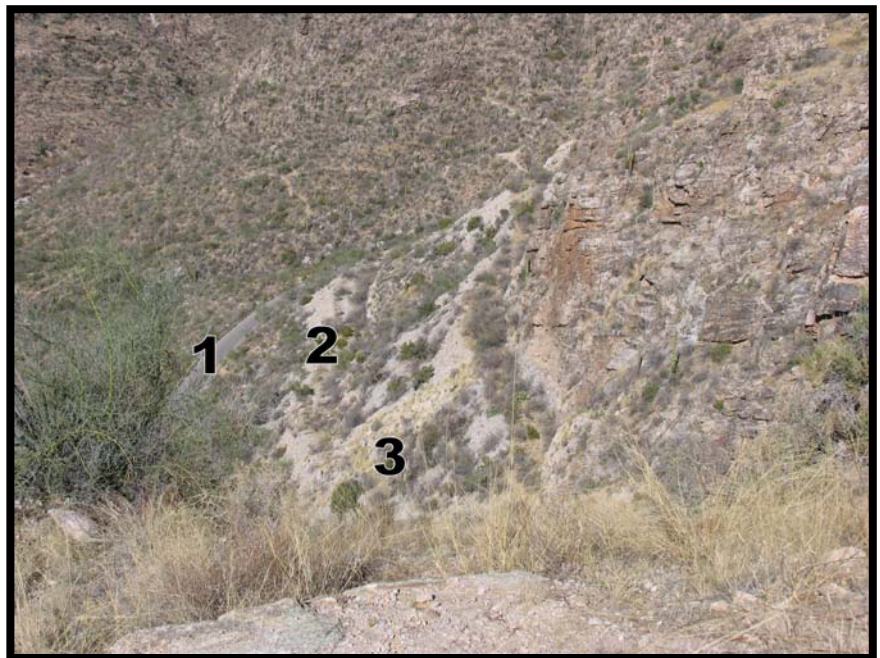
This photo was taken from the top of Sword Mountain, looking back down toward the unfinished road.

For many years, we were able to walk the unfinished road and the game trail to Sword Mountain. Several years ago, a small rockslide covered the unfinished road, making it unsafe to cross.

#1 – The paved road below

#2 – The unfinished road that led to the game trail that Brother Branham took up to Sword Mountain

#3 – Part of the rockslide that prevented people from continuing to take the unfinished road and game trail to Sword Mountain



Sword Mountain



Brother Branham said the sword that appeared in his hand while he was praying was glistening in the sun. During the time of the day and the time of year that Brother Branham was in the canyon praying, Sword Mountain is the only area on the east side of the canyon that is lit by the sun. This is one of the many descriptions that he gave which tell us this is the spot he was praying when the sword appeared in his hand.

Sword Mountain is just out of sight toward the upper right-hand corner of this photo.

The sun shines through the “U” shaped saddle onto Sword Mountain. (The saddle is seen in the top right portion of this photo.) (See other photos showing the sun coming through the saddle onto Sword Mountain.)

In the lower middle portion of this photo, you can see the rockslide that covered the unfinished road. (Before this rockslide was there, Brother Branham walked the unfinished road to a game trail, and then hiked up into the jagged peaks, which we call Sword Mountain.) The level part in the center of the photo is the unfinished road that is covered by the rockslide.

Sword Mountain



#1 – Thimble Peak (Sabino Canyon is identified by Thimble Peak, even from a distance.)

#2 – The sun shines through the “U” shaped saddle onto Sword Mountain, where the sword was glistening in the sun when it appeared in Brother Branham’s hand.

#3 – Sword Mountain

#4 – The unfinished road (covered by a rockslide)

#5 – The rockslide that covered the unfinished road

